

Attorney's Docket No. 30879,238175PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re: Morrow et al. Confirmation No.: 9536
Appl. No.: 09/989,289 Group Art Unit: 2831
Filed: November 20, 2001 Examiner: Anton B. Harris
For: TONEABLE CONDUIT AND METHOD OF PREPARING SAME

#7/16
T. EVANS
2-13-03

January 31, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 31, 2002, please reconsider the application based on the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims:

4. (Rewritten) A toneable conduit, comprising:

an elongate polymeric tube having a wall with an interior surface, an exterior surface, and a predetermined wall thickness; a channel extending longitudinally within the wall of the elongate polymeric tube; and a stabilizing rib extending longitudinally along the interior surface of the wall of the elongate polymeric tube and located radially inward from said channel; and

a continuous, high elongation wire coincident with the channel in the elongate polymeric tube, said wire selected from the group consisting of copper-clad steel wire, copper-clad aluminum wire, copper wire, and tin copper wire, having an elongation of at least about 1% and coated with a coating composition that prevents the wire from adhering to the polymer melt used to form the polymeric tube;

said high elongation wire capable of transmitting a toning signal to allow the conduit to be detected by toning equipment and capable of being torn out of the polymeric tube to allow the conduit and wire to be coupled.

5. (Amended) The toneable conduit according to Claim 4, wherein the high elongation wire is copper-clad steel wire.